Draft Minutes

Of the

Delaware Bicycle Council February 6, 2002 DelDOT Administration Building

Members Present

Don Carbaugh, Chair and New Castle County Representative Carl Anderson, At-large Representative Fred Breukelman, Dept. of Public Health Amy Wilburn, At-Large Representative Lisa Moore, Office of Highway Safety Laura Madara, DNREC Representative Lee Ann Walling, Sussex County Representative George Heberling, DE State Police

DelDOT Support Staff Present

Fritz Schranck, Deputy Attorney General Dennis Scott, Bike/Ped Coordinator Jay Kelley, DelDOT Representative Wendy Bernard, Secretary

Guests Present

Tim Plemmons, Council of Greenways and Trails

Members Absent

Janet Arns, Department of Education Tom Pleasanton, Kent County Representative Paul Stevenson, NCC Representative

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Meeting Minutes

Don suggested a motion to approve the December 5, 2001 meeting minutes. Lisa motioned and Fred seconded.

Council Membership

Don informed the Council that Danna Levy had been appointed as a representative for the Greenways & Trails Council.

There are still two seats to be filled, Tim P. has submitted an application to fill the seat vacated by Bill Boyd, and the COT seat is still vacant.

II. Old Business

Newsletter & Website

Website: Don informed the Council that there was still a message from the former governor and the message needs to be updated with one from the current governor.

Newsletter: Don would like to have a newsletter out for April so people will have them before May, which is Bike Month. If anyone has any articles they would like to submit, please submit them to Dennis, Don or Wendy.

Don also spoke with the Assistant Director of Statewide & Regional Planning, Joe Cantalupo, about getting a publisher for the newsletters and he said he would look into it. For now, Don said he would put the April newsletter together if a publisher isn't set up in time.

Don asked Bud Heberling to write an article on safety.

Don would like to have articles in by March 29th to give him time to edit and create the layout of the newsletter and get it printed.

New Castle County Map

Dennis informed the Council that the road measurements, pavement conditions, and other BLOS data needed to be input, which should take the next week to complete. It would then be sent to the consultants, RBA, who will take about 1 month to correlate the data. He expected to have a sample map available for the next DBC meeting. There will be public workshops which are tentatively scheduled for sometime in June.

Don commented that he had heard good reviews regarding the Kent/Sussex Bike Maps. He also informed the Council that the Office of Tourism was now the people to contact for Bike Map requests instead of going through Dennis.

Liveable Delaware

LeeAnn informed the Council that the Governor was still working on the issues pertaining to Liveable Delaware such as density, environments, and the Safe Routes to School campaign. There's a subcommittee being formed called the Community Design Subcommittee, which is comprised of varied fields of interests and was to meet twice a month. The committee of walkable communities is to be headed by Connie Holland. There is discussion of Dan Burden coming to DE to speak to the subcommittee.

Tim P. spoke of another new subcommittee, called the Green Infrastructure Subcommittee, which will work on protecting wildlife corridors and connectivity, street trees, and natural life support systems.

Communications Network

Carl asked if anyone had any people they would like to add to the network list. He also said he had obtained a list of people who had volunteered in the past and he would like to have their names added to the network.

He had received his first public notice for the Brandywine 100 meeting, which had been initiated by the CCOBH and that notice was going to be sent to the network. There are also Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan Update and Statewide Bike Plan meetings coming up which he would like to have the network informed of. Wendy said she would take care of these notices.

Budget

Dennis informed the Council of how much funds were left in the DBC funds. There was discussion on what to use the remainder of the funds on. Some suggestions were Bike Month and the National Bike Summit in DC on 3/8/02. It was mentioned the White Clay Bike Club also had some money and was thinking of splitting the costs of a billboard, or some bike law pamphlets. Tim asked what was traditionally spent on Bike month and Don said the biggest expense was the T-shirts. Some years they had printed posters too.

<u>Dennis also informed the Council that travel reimbursements were due to the DelDOT's financial section soon for the end of the year.</u>

Rail to Trail Study

Dennis reported the draft study was being reviewed, largely for readability, not content. The maps needed to be tweaked a little and the corridor costs still need to be estimated, but all of that should be done by the end of April.

New Castle Rail to Trail

Tim said there was a meeting held with DelDOT, DTC, New Castle County officials, and area businesses to discuss right-of-way and bridge options. The bridge estimates are \$800,000. Tim would next like to form a citizen steering committee including the heads of area communities and have a meeting in hopefully March.

Fritz wanted to make sure Tim was aware that in regards to the Clayton/Easton Trail, Maryland had some right-of-way on Route 404 to expand it and there might not be as much federal funding available as expected and to keep and eye on the trail to make sure it didn't get cut out of the budget.

Tim said Nathan mentioned Gore donating \$150,000 towards the Pomroy Branch Trail.

Don congratulated Tim on being named the new Executive Director for Greenways & Trails.

Statewide Bike Plan

Dennis had two meetings of the advisory committee (SAC); the third meeting is to be held on 2/13. The Vision & Goals had been passed around. RBA, a consulting firm, will give a presentation on Bicycle Level of Service (BLOS) to hopefully clear up any confusion pertaining to that technique of data collecting at the next meeting.

Don asked for a target release date for the plan. Dennis wasn't' sure what the date was, but would get back to him on that.

III. "Task" Updates

Bike Month

Paul S. volunteered to lead the Bike Month, and would get in touch with people from the MPO's, TMA, and DBC.

Don mentioned that the wheels were in motion for the Legislative Ride; he had spoken to Rep. Roger Roy. The 2nd week of May was a possible date, but it might again conflict with the State Police's events-Don was still working on that.

Dennis had a meeting with Ava Perrine, of the Kent County MPO, who was working on two sites for bike rodeos, one at a grade school during school and one in the early evening held at a park open to everyone to take place during bike month. Dennis also wondered if the Council puts together a calendar of events for bike month that might include other bicycling events, or fun stuff like bike to the drycleaners or movies. Also, there are other events in May not related directly to bicycles, but could be of interest, like flower shows, which Tim mentioned that the Hagley Museum open is August on Wednesdays for bicyclists, maybe they could do the same for May.

Fred also mentioned that National Employee Fitness Day was also in May.

Don said to send anymore tie-in ideas to Dennis or Paul. He also asked if anyone wanted to volunteer to help Paul, and Laura said she would. Don also said Dave Petrosky would also probably be willing to help with the graphics again.

Bike Route Network

Don told the Council that as part of Secretary Hayward's bike priorities, DelDOT now has 7 new sweepers.

LeeAnn had been working on the Kent/Sussex portion of the network and she said there were a lot of good roads. She was trying to set up her network with loops of roads outside of cities with shoulders on the roads which all intersect with Bike Route 1 because most of the bicyclists in these counties did recreational cycling. All together there were 5-6 loops with maybe 100 miles of roads.

Someone brought up the question to Fritz if there was some kind of state law not allowing parking in the bike lane on bike routes. Fritz said there were new bike laws and there should be "no parking" posting.

Don had been working on the New Castle County routes. The vast majority of the selected roads have shoulders and includes about 500 miles of roads. He is focusing more on destination driven routes since there are a lot of cyclists who commute in NCC. Obstacles to system continuity were barriers such as the canal, I-95 and the Brandywine River.

Carl asked if there was going to be any prioritization within the Bike Network for marking the roads or how much could be done in a year.

Next, the network is gong to be submitted to Secretary Hayward accompanied with a letter from Don. When the network is submitted, Don will e-mail it to the Council as well.

Don asked if he should include a sweeping schedule with the network. Fritz stated that DelDOT was already committed to a schedule through the National Pollution Discharge Maintenance standard. Jay commented that the schedule is based on the road classification. Tim suggested the routes should be swept 4 times per year except in the winter months. He also suggested the Adopt-a-highway program as a way to get more clean up. People could also submit specific requests and maybe evaluate the maintenance logs at the end of the year to see which roads needed extra attention.

Effective Cycling Update

The Council needs to set aside the registration fee for Laura M. who will hopefully be attending the Effective Cycling Course.

Two years ago, the Council paid to have to have some White Clay representatives go to the instructors course and now that money has been spent. Carl motioned to replenish the funds to White Clay for the Effective Cycling Training Course. Amy W. seconded the motion and it was passed. Don or Dennis will get in touch with Dave Petrosky and ask how the funds were transferred last time.

IV. New Business

Coordinator's Update

Dennis received information about the APBP position paper regarding ISTEA & TEA-21 reauthorization.

He also had information about a request for a portion of State Route 1 south of Dewey adding a rumble strip between the bike and vehicle lanes.

A new club is being formed for the center of the state, by integrating bicycle interests with an existing running club. There is a meeting to be held on Feb 13th.

Don mentioned the Cycle Across Maryland ride, July 19th through 25th, which includes an overnight stay at St. Andrews.

News Items

Tim talked about how kids today are very sedentary, study's in California have shown that of school aged children, 57% get rides to school today, which is up from data years ago where only 10% got rides. The DBC would like to become part of Congressman Oberstar's coalition of work on Safe Routes to school. Amy brought the motion and LeeAnn seconded it.

Fred mentioned that there was a meeting in Smyrna for Promoting Physical Activity on March 22nd and would like to have a DBC representative attend. They have some funds available to promote activity. Don C. said he would go.

Lisa brought in some bookmarks, which have bicycle safety guidelines on them for distribution to the Council. Wendy has extra copies if anyone is interested.

Bud is tracking traffic violations and accident data relating to bicycles and will report back on that once he is done.

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

The Next DBC Meeting will be on April 3rd from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
At the DelDOT Admin. Building in the
New Castle Conference Room